



Attorney's Docket No. E0295/7139 RAS

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Steven M. Blumenau, et al.

Serial No.: 09/751,684

Filing date: December 29, 2000

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANAGING ACCESS TO STORAGE  
DEVICES IN A STORAGE SYSTEM WITH ACCESS CONTROL

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Art Unit: 2171

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the 24th day of July, 2001.

*Kelly L. Crawford*  
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Kelly L. Crawford

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicants request consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

**PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97**

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case. No fee or certification is required.

**PART II: - Information Cited**

The Applicants hereby make of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

The Applicants hereby make the following additional information of record in the above-identified application:

The Examiner is hereby notified of co-pending and commonly assigned U.S. patent application serial no. 09/343,969 filed June 30, 1999, and 09/107,618 filed June 30, 1998, which contain subject

matter related to the subject matter disclosed in the present application, and to which priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed.

### **PART III: Remarks**

A copy of each of the above-identified information is enclosed unless otherwise indicated on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

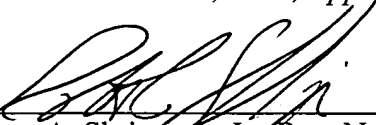
By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicants, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information. An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Steven M. Blumenau, et al., Applicants*

By:   
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Date: July 24, 2001  
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